



COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER

CITY OF SAN DIEGO – COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Press Release

For Immediate Release
September 18, 2009

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Councilmember Lightner Announces Formation of University City Community Canyon Fire Watch Program

SAN DIEGO --- A committed group of University City residents and community leaders laid the groundwork for a University City Community Canyon Fire Watch fire safety organization at a meeting Thursday evening at the Standley Recreation Center.

“I’m pleased, but not surprised, to see that University City neighbors are eager to control the fire danger in their community,” Councilmember Sherri Lightner said.

At Thursday’s meeting, residents volunteered to help distribute information on fire prevention to residents who live on the edge of Rose Canyon. Other neighbors will help select locations from which volunteers will watch Rose Canyon for signs of fire during the next three months. Volunteers will coordinate canyon fire watch training with San Diego Fire/Rescue at a later date.

The University City Community Canyon Fire Watch is being led by Co-Chairs Andy Freeburn and Janay Kruger. Freeburn is President of the University City Community Association, and Kruger is Chair of the University Community Planning Group. They were joined by Lightner, Assistant Fire Chief Javier Mainar, representatives from the Community Emergency Response Team, HOAs, the Friends of Rose Canyon, UC Connection, other community leaders, and residents.

“San Diego Fire/Rescue is looking forward to working closely with the University City community as they work to educate, prepare and alert the community to the dangers of fire,” said Mainar.

The University City group is loosely based on the Community Canyon Fire Watch program organized this month in Rancho Peñasquitos. Councilmember Lightner brought the idea to University City community leaders, who took an interest in forming a similar group in their own community.

“We plan to continue growing and strengthening this program over the next several years,” Freeburn stated.

The next meeting of the University City Community Canyon Fire Watch will be in the coming weeks. All community members are invited to participate and can contact Andy Freeburn at promovstar@aol.com for more information.

Sherri Lightner is the Councilmember for Council District One of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Black Mountain Ranch, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Hills, Torrey Highlands, Torrey Pines, and University City. She took office December 8, 2008.

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